

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

C 3720

COUNTRY Free Territory of Trieste.

DATE DISTR. 8 November 1951

SUBJECT Seminars for Educational Workers in  
Zone B, Free Territory of Trieste

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1C

ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. 537  
(LISTED BELOW)

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1. On 2, 3, and 4 September 1951, seminars were reportedly held in Koper for Yugoslav and Italian educational workers in that district. The principal speakers were Julij Beltrame<sup>1</sup>, Political Secretary of the Zone B Yugoslav Communist Party Central Committee, and an unidentified deputy of the Slovene Republic Ministry of Public Instruction.
2. Beltrame purportedly spoke on the economic changes which have occurred in Zone B. A great deal of the material used in his talk was taken from a brochure entitled "Blize Socializmu" ("Nearer Socialism").<sup>2</sup> In his concluding remarks, Beltrame stated that decisive economic changes may be expected to take place in Yugoslavia very soon, and that in the event Zone B should be annexed to Yugoslavia, a unified economic system will be established.
3. The deputy of the Slovene Republic Ministry of Public Instruction allegedly made statements to the effect that:
  - a. Teachers must constantly strive to increase their professional knowledge. Teachers must bear in mind that their first and foremost function is that of teaching; hence, in the future they must be concerned solely with directing the educational policies of the country.
  - b. Children belong to the family unit; no attempt is made to alienate them from their parents. Since no one is in a better position to train children than their mothers, teachers must cooperate with parents in educating children.
  - c. Yugoslavia has made two grave mistakes. First, she discarded the old educational system completely and secondly, she blindly adopted the Soviet educational system. This Soviet system was not completely familiar to the Yugoslavs and it did not coincide with the needs of the Yugoslav national situation. Therefore, it failed to achieve favorable results.

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- d. No teacher must openly interfere with religious practices or church attendance. Nevertheless, it is the duty of every teacher and educational worker in the country to instruct the people in such a manner that some day they themselves will realize the unimportance of religion.
- e. The introduction into Zone B of the 8-year elementary school system, patterned closely after the educational system in Yugoslavia, will serve to prepare Zone B educationally for possible future annexation to Yugoslavia.

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2. Comment: A copy of the brochure "Blize Socializmu" ("Nearer Socialism"), published by the Italo-Slovene Anti-Fascist Union (UAIS) in Koper, Zone B, Free Territory of Trieste, is available in the CIA Library upon request.

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